

Lament For My Birthday!

Where is the laugh
of my cousin on the slide that gets everyone wet?

Where is the Ice Cream Cake
with my name in great blue letters?

Where is my pool
overflowing with silly kids?

Where is the Boom Box
the one that gets wet every year?

Where is my uncle
who soaks people with big buckets of water?

Where is my grandma
making beans, rice, chicken,
and the sweet juice as ripe as peaches?

Where is the corn on the cob
waiting to be eaten?

Where are the burning sidewalks
that I jump over?

Where is the family water balloon fight?

Where is the rest
of the family?

Alas, five long months until it all comes again.